

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shibahashi et al., U.S. Patent Number 558700 ("Shibahashi") in view of Nakasuji et al., U.S. Patent Number 4028118 ("Nakasuji") and Melvin et al., U.S. Patent Number 5779562 ("Melvin").

Claim 1 has been amended to better define the leuco dye system, and new claim 21 further defines the leuco dye system, support for which is found on page 10 of the Specification.

Shibahashi discloses a specific thermochromic composition, and discloses the use of such composition on a poly-vinyl chloride (PVC) ball. Nakasuji discloses many thermochormic compositions. Melvin discloses a four piece golf ball. However, there is not motivation to combine any of the references, nor is there any suggestion to combine the references. It is more likely that Nakasuji teaches away from any combination with Shibahashi since both references disclose specific thermochromic compositions, however, neither reference discloses the leuco dye system of amended claim 1 and new claim 21.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully solicits a Notice of Allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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